81.5 metres and on 18.2.99 permitted to raise the height of the Dam upto RL 85 metres, excluding humps required for the safety of the Dam.

The issue of further raising of the dam is subjudice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Out of the total budget provision of Rs. 1600 crores during 1999-2000 under AIBP, a ceiling of Rs. 275 crores has been fixed for Gujarat in its Annual Plan against which Rs. 267 crores have been approved for Sardar Sarovar Project and Rs. 8 crores for other seven project in Gujarat. The first instalment of 50% was released in August, 99 and proposal for release of Second instalment has been submitted recently to Ministry of Finance.

Recommendations of the National Commission on Water Resources

2142. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Water Resources has submitted its recommendations to Government;

(b) if so, the salient features of those recommendations;

(c) whether Government have examined them;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY); (a) and (b) A statement is attached (*See* below)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

Recommendations of the National Commission on Water Resources.

The National Commission for Integrated Water Resources

Development Plan has submitted its partial report to the Government of India on 1.12.99.

The main recommendations of the Commission are as under:

1. Continued government funding on enhanced scale for major projects, instilling financial discipline and prioritisation of projects for channelising the funds. Central assistance to major projects to be projectwise instead of being part of the overall plan assistance.

2. Need for well laid down compensation packages for all categories of porject affected persons. While doing so, the Commission has emphasised that resettlement and rehabilitation projects be implemented by a functional authority with sufficient funds.

3. Need for amending the existing Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956, enactment of a new Act in lieu of the existing River Board's Act, 1956, and also amending the existing Irrigation Acts which would facilitate participatory irrigation management.

4. Optimal utilisation of land and water should be aimed at in basins having surplus before considering interbasin transfers (intrabasin transfer to be given first priority).

5. Setting up of River Basin Organisation for each Inter-State River having representation from the concerned State Governments, Water Users etc.

6. Substantial revision of present water rates to cover the entire operation & maintinance expenses, constituting Water Pricing Authority on the analogy of existing Energy Pricing Authorities.

7. For environment protection, the principle of "User Pays, Polluter Pays" need to be adopted for industrial uses.

8. Need for revising the National Water Policy (1987), need for making hydrological data for all basins freely available to all interested.

9. For flood control measures, Commission has recommended preparation of disaster preparedness plans, performance review of embankments and policy to regulate the land use in different flood

zones. Existing flood forecasting system be strengthened and modernised using telemetry and satellite communication.

10. For optimal and integrated development of trans-Himalayan rivers, India should work for cooperation amongst the neighbouring countries. For this purpose, it has been suggested that National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in India, Water Resource Planning Organisations (WRPO) in Bangladesh and Energy Development Authority (EDA) in Nepal be designated to interact as a clearing house of information.

11. For hydropower development, Commission has recommended creation of hydropower development fund, promotion of joint ventures, tariff rationalisation etc.

12. For navigation development, the Commission has recommended that Inland Water Transport be treated as a nascent industry.

Amount Spent on Dolathabi Project in Manipur

2143. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money so far sanctioned by Government for construction of Dolathabi Project in Manipur;

(b) the amount so far spent on this work; and

(c) the date of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Dolathabi project in Manipur has been approved by the Planning Commission in 1992 for an estimated cost of Rs. 18.86 Crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is reported to be Rs. 45.00 crore. Irrigation being a State subject, the irrigation projects are funded from the State's own resources.

(b) An amount of Rs. 11.62 crore has been incurred on this project up to March, 1999.

(c) The completion of this project will depend upon the priority attached to it by the State Government.